

## ❖❖❖ Jobs Program ❖❖❖

### ❖ Work First ❖

***The Jobs Program "Work First" model is based on the expectation that all adults find some type of employment. The "Work First" model emphasizes:***

- ❖ People are better off working than receiving TANF cash assistance;
- ❖ Adults who receive TANF cash assistance must work;
- ❖ The best way to learn about work is by working;

***Support services provided should promote employment at the earliest opportunity, with the labor market being the initial test of employability.***

### ❖ Work Requirement ❖

***Federal and State welfare reform legislation increased the percentage of TANF cash assistance recipients who must participate in work activities each year.***

- ❖ Any Adult in single parent household receiving TANF cash assistance is required to participate in work activities at least 30 hours per week;
- ❖ In a two parent household, participation in work activities is required for at least 35 hours per week and 55 hours per week if the household receives subsidized child care;
- ❖ All Adult and Teen Custodial Parents receiving cash assistance must participate in work activities except persons who are:
  - ❖ Without dependant children **and** under the age of 13; or age 13 though 18 **and** attending school; **or** age 16 to 18 with a high school diploma or GED;
  - ❖ Mentally or physically disabled;
  - ❖ Caring for a family member who is mentally or physically disabled;
  - ❖ A victim of Domestic Violence and participation may cause an immediate threat to the safety of themselves or their children;
  - ❖ Caring for a child under the age of 1 year (This deferral applies to single parent families only);
  - ❖ Teen custodial parent under age 19 caring for a child less than 12 weeks of age.

### ❖ Work Activities❖

***Work activities that count toward the mandated work requirement:***

- ❖ Job search and job readiness classes for up to maximum of 6 weeks per year;
- ❖ Unsubsidized employment;
- ❖ Subsidized employment – JOBSTART (Arizona's wage subsidy program);
- ❖ Unpaid work experience;
- ❖ Unpaid community service programs;
- ❖ Vocational training for up to 1 year;
- ❖ High school, GED classes, remedial education, or English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) for *teen* parents.

## ❖ Penalties ❖

*Individuals who do not comply with the Jobs Program requirements will have their benefits reduced. The penalties or sanction for non-compliance without good cause are:*

<u>Single-Parent Families</u>	<u>Two-Parent Families</u>
<p><b><u>Benefit reduction:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 25% of total cash assistance for the 1<sup>st</sup> incident of noncompliance;</li> <li>❖ 50% of total cash assistance for the 2<sup>nd</sup> incident of noncompliance;</li> <li>❖ Closure of cash assistance case for the 3<sup>rd</sup> noncompliance and all subsequent instances of noncompliance.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Benefit reduction:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 50% of monthly allotment the 1<sup>st</sup> incident of noncompliance;</li> <li>❖ 100% of monthly allotment for the 2<sup>nd</sup> incident of noncompliance;</li> <li>❖ Closure of cash assistance case for 3<sup>rd</sup> incident of noncompliance.</li> </ul>

### ***Restoring Benefits After Penalties:***

Sanctioned noncompliant individuals must express a willingness to comply and/or resume compliance before benefits are restored. If the TANF cash assistance case was closed, a new application is required.

## ❖ Jobs Program Regional Managers ❖

***Regional Managers may be contacted for further information. Program Region are identified by county:***

### **Region I**

Maricopa, Gila and Pinal

Isabel Silva

Phoenix, Arizona

(602) 240-6068

### **Region II**

Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, Pima,  
and Santa Cruz

Peggy Feenan

Tucson, Arizona

(520) 628-6810 x250

### **Region III**

Apache, Coconino, LaPaz  
Mohave, Navajo, Yavapai  
and Yuma

Pam Estrella

Flagstaff, Arizona

(928) 774-1982 x204

### Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Department must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program, service, or activity. For example, this means that if necessary, the Department must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that the Department will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program or activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible. This document is available in alternative formats by contacting your local Jobs office.



Arizona Department of Economic Security  
Quality Service, Organizational Pride,  
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